

**Minutes**  
**Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) North Corridor Metrorail Extension**  
**NW 163<sup>rd</sup> Street Station (Palmetto) Planning Meeting**  
**June 13, 2005**

The meeting was opened by Michelle Simmons of MDT at 7:15 p.m. with overview remarks and recognition of CITT member Ted Wilde and State Representative Wilbert Holloway's Representative Charles Calaman.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Jim Ericksen, P.E., Assistant Project Manager of Parsons Transportation Group, Described the Project:

- Present project is to gain your neighborhood input of the project
- We are in the Preliminary Engineering Phase
- Alignment approved in 2004 by Citizens Advisory Committee
- This phase will further define alignment, type of structure, columns
- Putting together a set of plans for Federal Transportation Administration, then the project moves into Final Design
- More complete project design by Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The focus of meeting is to get your feed back of what you desire at NW 163 Street station.

Steven Thompson, AIA, of Earth Tech, presentation focused on architectural input:

- Identify landmarks, Identify events
- Architecture and landscape elements
- Provide guidelines for final design
- The Urban Analysis Report
- This station--Good potential for development
- Discussed Metrorail alignment 16½ feet above the roadway
- Noise barrier walls
- Some issues – aesthetics, other Metrorail station, handicapped access

Presentation by Ronald Frazier, AIA, Architectural input of station:

- Moorish architecture in Opa-locka will be maintained
- But in Miami Gardens need themes for 4 stations located in Miami gardens
- Cultural symbolism
- Roofs
- Vertical columns
- Beams
- All elements in station that can receive diverse treatments and designs
- Can use colors and textures off of artifacts, and apply to flooring, columns, walls and other structures at the transit station

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- Miami architecture is a mix of Mediterranean, Caribbean and other flavors
- Think about, starting with color – wall paint/texture color and color of tiles – how you want the color reflected?
- Similarly to the Apple St. Station example, images of apples everywhere
- Miami--South Florida evoke images of sun, blue skies and greenery; therefore this might be a side theme for all the stations and then still have additionally a major theme for each individual station – examples, Moorish theme in Opa-locka -- education and diversity for the Miami-Dade College Station.
- Palm trees can be sculpted into tiled. Supports can be round, square or six sided. Finally and very importantly as much landscaping as possible – grass, trees, plants, flowers etc.
- We can bring the station alive, starting with bright colors and patterns on the floor.

### **COMMUNITY CITIZEN CONCERNS:**

1. We would like to know what is happening with the entire North Corridor Metrorail Extension and the proposed design at each station.
2. When will you have station design?
3. How many residences and businesses will be displaced?
4. Merchants at NW 103 Street and 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue are concerned about the Metrorail line. Will a station be located there?
5. Let's talk about displacement.
6. Is the funding in place for this project? That's my understanding from a January transit meeting.
7. There were studies done by the last (previous) engineering firm. Where are they?
8. The roadway was planned in last study we had – so there wouldn't be accidents on the corners, right?
9. Will stations include park-and-ride at all of the stations?
10. Will parking area be secured? Metered parking?
11. Will there be station shelters, and pickup and drop off areas? Will the station have a bus terminal?
12. Parking structure---how high will they be
13. This station is adjacent to residences. How will the Metrorail affect these residents?
14. I would use the bus routes to come into station.
15. There are a lot of images in our area which we can use.
16. Is it safe to say you're looking for diversity symbolism for each station?
17. The designs can be in the floor – like in the Martin Luther King building?
18. We would like to see African solid colors, and tile mosaic on walls, floors and columns.

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19. Planters or trash receptacles should have color and design.
20. Only so much budget for each station – benches, foundations can be at stations on outside. Is there enough money to do these designs.
21. I believe the environmental issues – environmental functionality should be considered first
22. Building should be residential-community friendly, multi-usage at each station for residents of community it is suppose to serve.
23. We need to have a design concept for our own neighborhood, not the City of Miami Gardens designing our station.
24. The design concept should not necessarily reflect Miami Gardens since they are not providing funds.
25. I am trying to understand the priority as to the influence of Miami Gardens over the NW 163<sup>rd</sup> Street Station
26. In addition to walls, will landscaping and vegetation include something pretty to look at – but easy to maintain.
27. Lighting is important for security reasons.
28. Will the technology going into these stations will be the most recent technology?
29. I like the feature where you have the ability to see and know when the next train is coming – transparency--see in and see out. The actual Metrorail has been upgraded to make the whole ride nice and comfortable

Bhaitvi Pandya, Miami Gardens Office of Development:

The City of Miami Gardens is moving forward with Future Downtown concepts that integrate mixed-use and new urbanism concepts. Needless to say, Metrorail plays a very important role as part of station area planning and Transit-oriented development at the NW 183 Street and 27 Avenue Station. The City looks forward to coordinating the station plan with its Future Downtown Concept.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

**MEETING ATTENDANCE**  
**Miami-Dade Transit (MDT)**  
**Miami North Corridor Metrorail Extension, Preliminary Engineering Phase**  
**NW 163RD STREET PLANNING MEETING**  
**June 13, 2005**

Jeanette Blocker  
Irene V. Brown  
Charles Calaman, Office of State Rep. Wilbert T. Holloway  
Wilbur Coleman, Up-Pac  
Krim Hackman, Biscayne Bay Gardens  
Henry & Eddie Mae Horn  
Noelling Isdore  
James Jackson  
Kerrick Johnson  
Jessie Marshall  
Helen Nierwinski, Gragny Homeowners Association  
Bhairvi Pandya, City of Miami Gardens  
Robert Rand  
Betty Smith  
Ted Wilde, CITT  
Arthur Wilson  
Jaime Wright, City of Miami Gardens  
Frances Young

**STAFF:**

Jim Ericksen, Parsons Transportation Group  
Michelle Simmons, MDT  
Tony Budall, BND Engineers  
Ronald Frazier, Ronald Frazier and Associates  
Steven Thompson, Earth Tech  
Bobbie Mumford, Public Outreach Coordinator  
Deborah Johnson, Public Outreach